

Message Text

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62

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ADP-00 INSE-00 PPTE-00 SCA-01 SSO-00

(ADP) W

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R 202100Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2698

UNCLAS KINGSTON 2824

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC; JM (THREE UNIDENTIFIED SHIPWRECKED PERSONS)

SUBJECT: THREE ALLEGED AMERICANS SHIPWRECKED

SCS PASS INS

1. THE EMBASSY DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE WAS NOTIFIED LATE FRIDAY, AUGUST 17, THAT THE SS RICHARDS HAD RESCUED THREE PERSONS CLAIMING TO BE UNITED STATES CITIZENS FROM A VESSEL NAMED THE MAVERICK. THE RICHARDS WAS TO LAND THEM AT OCHO RIOS ON SATURDAY MORNING

2. ON SATURDAY IN AN EXCHANGE OF TELEPHONE CALLS BETWEEN THE EMBASSY DUTY OFFICER, THE SCS OFFICER, THE JAMAICAN CHIEF OF IMMIGRATION, IMMIGRATION OFFICERS AT OCHO RIOS AND PORT ANTONIO, AND THE OCHO RIOS PORT SUPERINTENDENT, THE FOLLOWING FACTS WERE ESTABLISHED:

(A) IN DEPARTING THE MAVERICK, THE ONLY THINGS TAKEN BY THE THREE WERE A HANDGUN AND RIFLE-NO EVIDENCE OF IDENTITY OR SHIP'S DOCUMENTS WERE TAKEN;

(B) JAMAICA IMMIGRATION REFUSED TO ALLOW THEM TO BE LANDED, UNLESS THEY COULD SHOW MEANS OF DEPARTING THE COUNTRY;

(C) THE RICHARDS CAPTAIN HAD OFFERED THEM A WORKAWAY TO CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS, WHICH THEY ACCEPTED, RATHER

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THAN ARGUE WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

3. IN VIEW OF LACK OF IDENTITY, THE THREE MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY
LANDING IN CORPUS CHRISTI. THEREFORE THE EMBASSY WISHED TO
MAKE THE INCIDENT A MATTER OF RECORD FOR THE IMMIGRATION AND
NATURALIZATION SERVICE, SHOULD VERIFICATION
OF THEIR NARRATION BECOME NECESSARY. HEWITT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KINGST02824
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730828/aaaaaugp.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION SCSE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 NOV 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01-Nov-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2002 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THREE ALLEGED AMERICANS SHIPWRECKED SCS PASS INS
TAGS: CASC, JM, (THREE UNIDENTIFIED SHIPWRECKED PERS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005